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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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28304	7590	01/16/2007	EXAMINER	
JEAN M. MACHELEDT 501 SKYSAIL LANE SUITE B100 FORT COLLINS, CO 80525-3133			FIGUEROA, ADRIANA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3637	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	01/16/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/788,785	JOHNSON ET AL.
	Examiner Adriana Figueroa	Art Unit 3637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-19, drawn to "a panel having an ornamental façade", classified in class 296, subclass 191.
 - II. Claims 20-24, drawn to "method of producing a panel", classified in class 52, subclass 748.11.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make another and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the method can be used to produce a door for a vehicle.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

3. During a telephone conversation with Jean Macheledt on December 19, 2006 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of "a panel having an ornamental façade", claims 1-19. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 20-24 withdrawn from further

consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Drawings

5. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the limitation "each said interconnect section comprising a bend between distal ends" described in claim 9, lines 7- 8 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

The drawings are objected to because in Figure 4A the numeral 100 does not correspond with the specification where the arrow is described as 90.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet,

and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

6. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 4, line 31 the phrase "the panel through to the other..." is grammatically incorrect.

On page 6, line 8, the phrase "The first section may also be comprised right-side and left-side sections" is grammatically incorrect.

On page 13, line 29 the word "though" is misspelled.

On page 14, line 15, Fig. 7 is incorrect; the numerals correspond to Figure 5.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19 describe the limitation "first section"; there is not support in the specification for this limitation. For examination purposes the Examiner will consider "the fist section" as being the same as the support framework.

Claim 9 in lines 7- 8 describes the limitation "each said interconnect section comprising a bend between distal ends". This limitation is not shown in the drawings and the specification does not explain the bend and what distal ends are referring to. Therefore, it is unclear what this limitation refers to. For examination purposes the Examiner will not consider this limitation.

Claim 12 describes the limitation "visual light source" in line 3; there is not support in the specification for this limitation. For examination purposes the Examiner will consider this as equivalent to the incandescent light source.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylki (US 4,214,412).

Regarding claim 1, Wolfrum discloses a panel having a member (48) comprising an outwardly-directed surface (o) to which the ornamental façade (50) is affixed, and an inwardly-directed surface (i) to which a support framework (F) is integrally coupled, (annotated Figures 2A, 4); said support framework (F) comprising a first section (16, 18, 20R, 20L) located generally along the periphery of said inwardly-directed surface (i) and at least one interconnect section (20) extending between said first section(annotated Figures 2A, 4); and a plurality of apertures (58) through a lower length (18) of said first section, each said aperture sized for accepting a fastener (60) permitting the securing of the panel to the foundation (14), (Figures 2, 3), (Column 4, Lines 16-19).

Wolfrum does not disclose the member and the support framework being plastic. However, Barylki teaches a support framework (11) and panels (12) made of plastic, (Figure 1), (Column 2, Lines 32-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the panels and support framework of Wolfrum to be made of plastic as taught by Barylki in order to provide a light weight, and rust resistant structure.

Regarding claim 5, Wolfrum modified by Barylki discloses as discussed above. Wolfrum teaches a panel having: said outwardly-directed surface (o) is generally planar and rectangular in shape, (Figure 1, annotated Figure 2A); said first section further

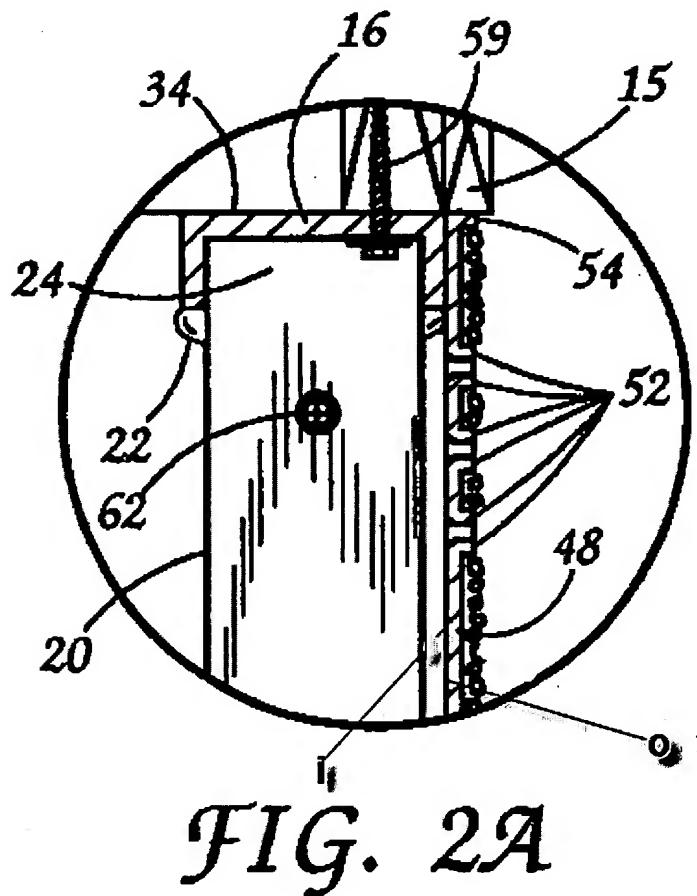
comprises right-side (20R), left-side (20L), and upper (16) sections, each said section having a plurality of apertures (58, 62) therethrough (Figures 2A, 3A, 4); and said support framework (F) and said plastic member (48) are integrally fabricated, (Figure 4).

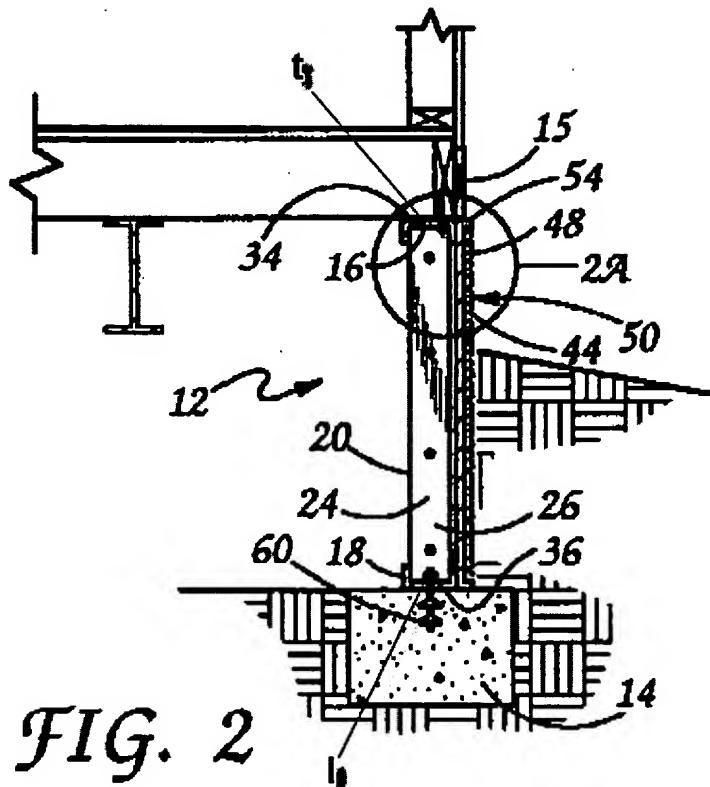
This claim is also a product by process claim and the support framework and plastic member do not depend on the process of making it. The product-by-process limitation "by a process selected from the group consisting of injection molding, structural foam molding, blow molding, transfer molding, compression molding, thermoforming, and adhesion of said framework and plastic member having been separately extruded" would not be expected to impart distinctive structural characteristics to the support framework and plastic member. Therefore, the claimed support framework and plastic member are not a different and unobvious support framework and plastic member from Wolfrum modified by Barylski.

Regarding claim 6, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 1; Wolfrum teaches a panel having: said first section further comprises right-side (20R), left-side (20L), and upper (16) sections, each said section having a plurality of apertures (58, 62) therethrough (Figures 2A, 3A, 4); and (b) the ornamental facade (50) comprises artificial stone having been so affixed using an adhesive, (Figures 2, 3), (Column 3, Lines 39-41).

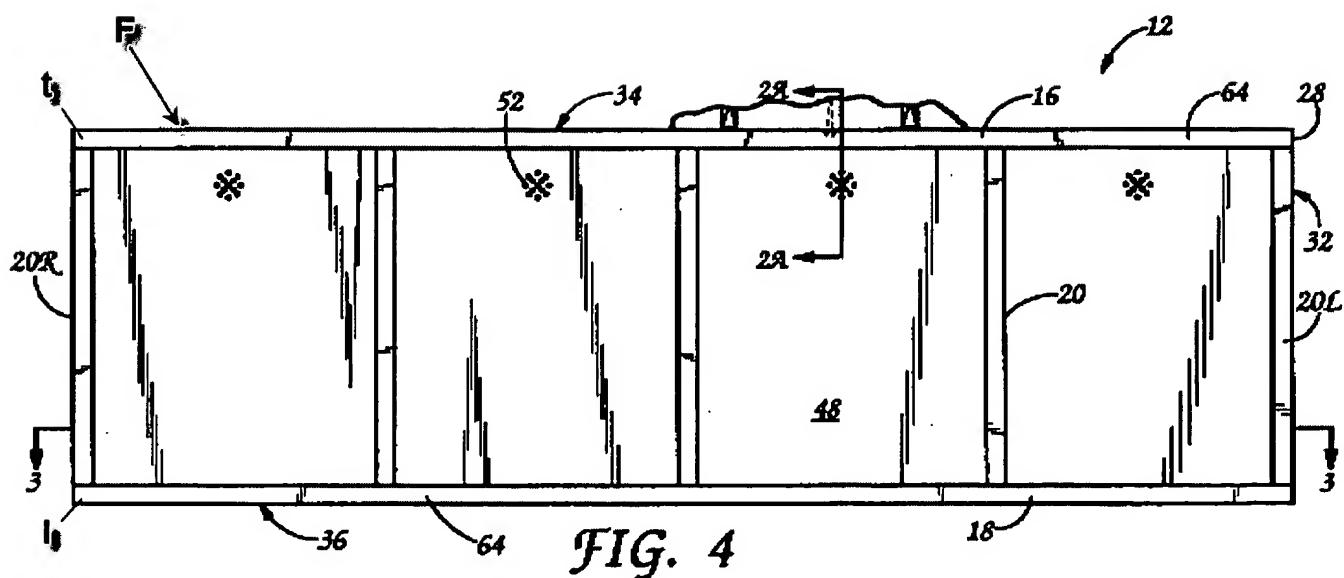
Regarding claim 9, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 1; Wolfrum teaches a panel wherein: for each of the panels said first section further comprises right-side (20R), left-side (20L), and upper (16) sections, said upper section having a plurality of apertures (58) therethrough; and said support framework (F) further

comprises a second interconnect section (20) extending between said first section, (Figure 2A, annotated Figure 4); and the panels are arranged such that said left-side section (20L) of one of said plurality of panels is secured to said right-side section (20R) of an adjacent panel, (Figure 3A) (Column 4, Lines 18-25).



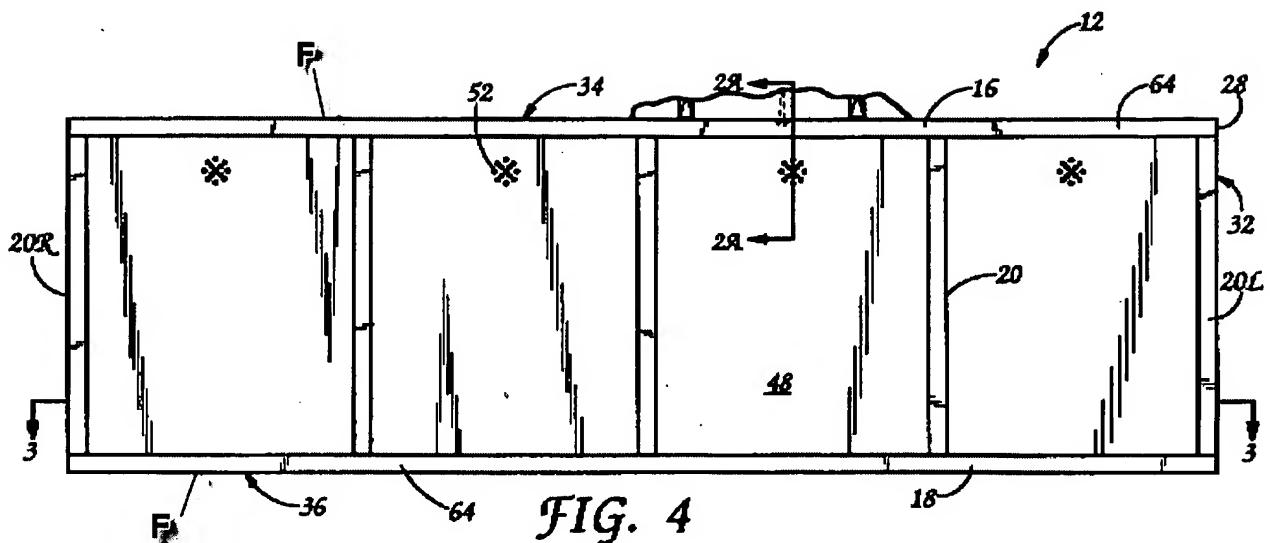


Wolfrum (US 6,205,720)



Wolfrum (US 6,205,720)

Regarding claim 10, Wolfrum discloses a panel having an ornamental facade (50) and capable of securing to a foundation (14), the panel comprising: a member comprising an outwardly-directed surface (o) to which the ornamental facade is affixed, and an inwardly-directed surface (50) to which a support framework (F) and right (20R) and left (20L) vertical supports are coupled, (annotated Figures 2, 4) said support framework (F) comprising a first section (16) located generally along a top periphery of said inwardly-directed surface (i) (annotated Figure 4); (c) each said right (20R) and left (20L) vertical support comprising an angle iron shaped extension, a top-end (t) and lower-end (l) of which has a respective ledge permanently affixed, (annotated Figures 2, 4). Wolfrum does not disclose the support framework being plastic. However, Barylki teaches a support framework (11) made of plastic, (Figure 1), (Column 2, Lines 32-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the support framework of Wolfrum to be made of plastic as taught by Barylki in order to provide a lightweight, and rust resistant structure.



Wolfrum (US 6,205,720)

Regarding claim 14, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 10; Wolfrum teaches a panel wherein the ornamental facade (50) comprises artificial stone having been so affixed using an adhesive, (Figures 2, 3), (Column 3, Lines 39-41); each said lower-end ledge (1) comprises an aperture (58) for accepting a fastener (60) permitting the securing of the panel to the foundation (14), (Figure 2), (Column 4, Lines 15-18); and each said angle iron shaped extension (20R, 20L) comprises a plurality of apertures for accepting second fasteners (62) permitting the securing of said left vertical support with a respective of said right vertical support of an adjacent panel, (Figures 1, 3A), (Column 4, Lines 18-25).

9. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412), Hasecke (US 6,958,182) and further in view of Hazan (US 2002/0056835).

Regarding claim 2, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 1; Wolfrum teaches a panel wherein said outwardly-directed surface (o) is generally planar and polygonal in shape, (annotated Figure 2A, Figure 4).

Wolfrum modified by Barylski does not disclose the ornamental façade comprising an illumination source. However, Hasecke teaches a panel (10) having an ornamental façade comprising an illumination source (60), (Figure 4), (Column 4, Line 37). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the ornamental façade of Wolfrum and Barylski to include an illumination source as taught by Hasecke in order to provide an aesthetic impression and a basic illumination of the area.

Wolfrum modified by Barylski does not disclose the support framework and said plastic member being fabricated of thermoplastic structural foam. However, Hazan teaches a support framework (76, 78) and member (72) being made of a thermoplastic structural foam, (Figure 6), (Page 3, Paragraph 36), Lines 1-4, 9-11). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the support framework and said plastic member of Wolfrum and Barylski to being made of thermoplastic structural foam as taught by Hazan in order to provide a lightweight and strong structure.

Regarding claim 3, Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan discloses as discussed above, Hasecke discloses the panel (10) having the outwardly-directed surface comprising a port-hole (12) and said illumination source (60) comprising an halogen lamp which is a variant of an incandescent light source as defined in the specification; and a fixture (58) arranged with an electrical cabling (30) through said port-hole, (Figures 1, 4), (Column 4, Lines 36-38).

Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan disclose said support framework (F) and said plastic member (48) are integrally fabricated, (annotated Figure 4).

This claim is also a product by process claim and the support framework and plastic member do not depend on the process of making it. The product-by-process limitation "fabricated by reaction injection molding (RIM)" would not be expected to impart distinctive structural characteristics to the support framework and plastic member. Therefore, the claimed support framework and plastic member are not a different and unobvious support framework and plastic member from Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan.

10. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412), Hasecke (US 6,958,182), Hazan (US 2002/0056835), Gordin (US 5,647,661) and further in view of Mitzel (US 6,402,338). Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan discloses as discussed above, but does not disclose the illumination source comprising an arc light. However,

Gordini teaches an illumination source comprising an arc light, (Column 6, Lines 9-12). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the illumination source of Wolfrum, Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan to include an arc light as taught by Gordini in order to provide a strong and clear illumination of the surrounding area.

Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan does not disclose the illumination source comprising a fixture arranged with a photo-voltaic cell and battery. However, Mitzel teaches an illumination source comprising a fixture (10) arranged with a photo-voltaic cell and battery (16), (Figure 1), (Column 4, Lines 2-6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the illumination source of Wolfrum, Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan to include a fixture arranged with a photo-voltaic cell and battery as taught by Mitzel in order to provide a solar generated illumination source.

Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan discloses said support framework (F) and said plastic member (48) are integrally fabricated, (annotated Figure 4).

This claim is also a product by process claim and the support framework and plastic member do not depend on the process of making it. The product-by-process limitation "fabricated by structural foam molding" would not be expected to impart distinctive structural characteristics to the support framework and plastic member. Therefore, the claimed support framework and plastic member are not a different and

unobvious support framework and plastic member from Wolfrum modified by Barylski, Hasecke and Hazan.

11. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412) and further in view of Stoecker (US 4,841,691).

Regarding claim 7, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 1.; Wolfrum teaches a plurality of the panels wherein: the foundation (14) comprises a compressive-support material within a ground, said compressive-support material being concrete which is made of cement, (Figure 2), (Column 2, Lines 55-56).

For each of the panels, the support framework includes apertures (58) through said upper section (16) sized for accepting a second fastener (59) permitting the securing of the panel to a lower support of the manufactured building, (Figures 2, 2A).

Wolfrum modified by Barylski does not disclose each said section of said support framework being tubular in shape. However, Stoecker teaches a support framework being tubular in shape (Figures 1, 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the support framework of Wolfrum and Barylski to have a tubular shape as taught by Stoecker in order to provide a stronger support structure.

Regarding claim 8, Wolfrum teaches a plurality of panels (12) wherein the manufactured building is a mobile home (10), said lower support comprises a floor joist (15) of the mobile home, and the panels (12) are arranged such that said left-side

section of one of said plurality of panels is secured to said right-side section of an adjacent panel using a plurality of third fasteners (62) through said apertures of said left-side and right-side sections, (Figures 1, 3A), (Column 4, Lines 18-25).

12. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412) and further in view of Hasecke (US 6,958,182). Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 10; Wolfrum teaches a panel wherein: said outwardly-directed surface (o) is generally planar and polygonal in shape (annotated Figures 2, 2A, Figure 4); each said lower-end ledge (l) comprises an aperture for accepting a fastener (60) permitting the securing of the panel to the foundation (14), (Figure 2).

Wolfrum modified by Barylski does not disclose the ornamental façade comprising an illumination source. However, Hasecke teaches a panel (10) having an ornamental façade comprising an illumination source (60), (Figure 4), (Column 4, Line 37). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the ornamental façade of Wolfrum and Barylski to include an illumination source as taught by Hasecke in order to provide an aesthetic impression and a basic illumination of the area.

13. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412), Hasecke (US 6,958,182) and further in view of Stoecker (US 4,841,691). Wolfrum modified by Barylski and Hasecke

discloses as discussed in claim 11, Hasecke discloses the panel (10) having the outwardly-directed surface comprising a port-hole (12) and said illumination source (60) comprising an halogen lamp which is a variant of a visual light source as defined in the specification; and a fixture (58) arranged with an electrical cabling (30) through said port-hole, (Figures 1, 4), (Column 4, Lines 36-38).

Wolfrum discloses the first section of the support framework has a plurality of apertures (58) therethrough for accepting a second fastener (59) permitting the securing of the panel (12) to a lower support (15) of the manufactured building, (Figures 2, 2A).

Wolfrum modified by Barylski and Hasecke does not disclose each said first section of said support framework being tubular in shape. However, Stoecker teaches a support framework being tubular in shape (Figures 1, 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the support framework of Wolfrum, Barylski and Hasecke to have a tubular shape as taught by Stoecker in order to provide a stronger support structure.

14. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412), Hasecke (US 6,958,182), Gordini (US 5,647,661) and further in view of Mitzel (US 6,402,338). Wolfrum modified by Barylski and Hasecke discloses as discussed above, but does not disclose the illumination source comprising an arc light. However, Gordini teaches an illumination source comprising an arc light, (Column 6, Lines 9-12). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's

invention to modify the illumination source of Wolfrum, Barylski and Hasecke to include an arc light as taught by Gordini in order to provide a strong and clear illumination of the surrounding area.

Wolfrum modified by Barylski and Hasecke does not disclose the illumination source comprising a fixture arranged with a photo-voltaic cell and battery. However, Mitzel teaches an illumination source comprising a fixture (10) arranged with a photo-voltaic cell and battery (16), (Figure 1), (Column 4, Lines 2-6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the illumination source of Wolfrum, Barylski and Hasecke to include a fixture arranged with a photo-voltaic cell and battery as taught by Mitzel in order to provide a solar generated illumination source.

Wolfrum teaches each said angle iron shaped extension (20R, 20L) and said respective top-end (t) and lower-end (l) ledges are made of metal, (annotated Figures 2, 4), (Column 2, Lines 61-66).

15. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412) and further in view of Clark (US 4,375,929). Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 14 but does not disclose a panel having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface a distance from a respective right and left periphery of said inwardly-directed surface. However, Clark teaches a panel (4) having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections (17) coupled

to said inwardly-directed surface (18) a distance (d) from a respective right and left periphery (6) of said inwardly-directed surface, (annotated Figure 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the panel of Wolfrum and Barylski to include right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface as taught by Clark in order to provide a stronger panel.

Wolfrum discloses each said top-end ledge (t) comprises an aperture for accepting a fastener (59) permitting the securing of the panel (12) to a lower support (15) of a manufactured building, (annotated Figures 2, 2A).

The modified panel of Wolfrum, Barylski and Clark will have the right vertical support (20R) coupled to said inwardly-directed surface (i) within said distance (d) from

said respective right periphery.

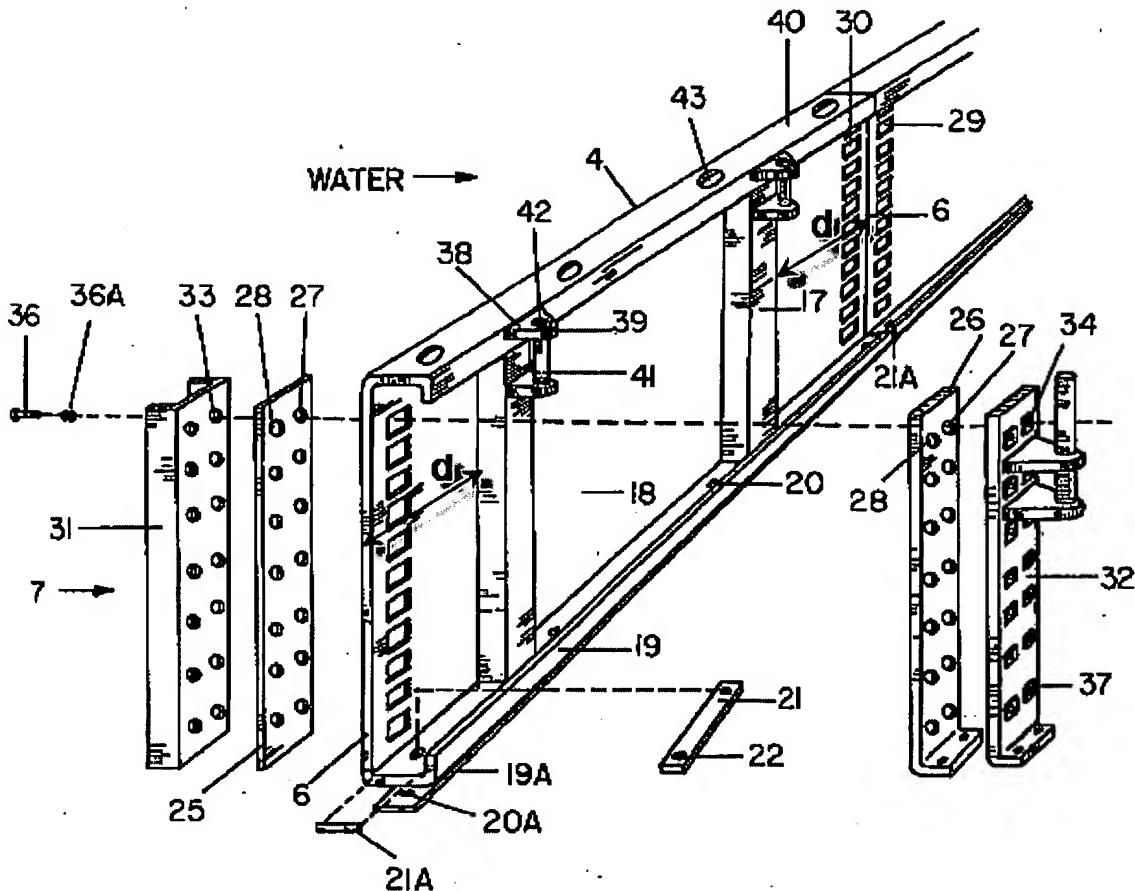


FIG 3

Clark (US 4,375,929)

16. Claims 16, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412) and further in view of Clark (US 4,375,929).

Regarding claim 16, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 10 but does not disclose a panel having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface a distance from a respective right and left periphery of said inwardly-directed surface. However, Clark teaches a panel (4) having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections (17) coupled to said inwardly-directed surface (18) a distance (d) from a respective right and left periphery (6) of said inwardly-directed surface, (annotated Figure 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the panel of Wolfrum and Barylski to include right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface as taught by Clark in order to provide a stronger panel.

Wolfrum discloses a panel wherein said coupling of said right (20R) and left (20L) vertical supports to said inwardly-directed surface (i) comprises a plurality of fasteners (46), (Figure 3), (Column 3, Lines 37-38).

Wolfrum discloses said support framework (F) and said member (48) are integrally fabricated, (Figure 4).

This claim is also a product by process claim and the support framework and the member do not depend on the process of making it. The product-by-process limitation "by a process selected from the group consisting of injection molding, structural foam molding, blow molding, transfer molding, compression molding, thermoforming, and adhesion of said framework and member having been separately extruded" would not be expected to impart distinctive structural characteristics to the support

framework and the member. Therefore, the claimed support framework and the member are not a different and unobvious support framework and plastic member from Wolfrum modified by Barylski.

Regarding claim 17, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 10 but does not disclose a panel having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface a distance from a respective right and left periphery of said inwardly-directed surface. However, Clark teaches a panel (4) having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections (17) coupled to said inwardly-directed surface (18) a distance (d) from a respective right and left periphery (6) of said inwardly-directed surface, (annotated Figure 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the panel of Wolfrum and Barylski to include right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface as taught by Clark in order to provide a stronger panel.

Wolfrum discloses said coupling of said support framework to said inwardly-directed surface comprises a plurality of fasteners which would be equivalent to use an adhesive, (Figure 3), (Column 3, Lines 37-38).

The modified panel of Wolfrum, Barylski and Clark will have the right vertical support (20R) and left vertical support (20L) coupled to said inwardly-directed surface (i) within said distance (d) from said respective right and left periphery.

Regarding claim 19, Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 10 but does not disclose a panel having said first section further comprising right-

side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface a distance from a respective right and left periphery of said inwardly-directed surface. However, Clark teaches a panel (4) having said first section further comprising right-side and left-side sections (17) coupled to said inwardly-directed surface (18) a distance (d) from a respective right and left periphery (6) of said inwardly-directed surface, (annotated Figure 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the panel of Wolfrum and Barylski to include right-side and left-side sections coupled to said inwardly-directed surface as taught by Clark in order to provide a stronger panel.

The modified panel of Wolfrum, Barylski and Clark will have the right vertical support (20R) and left vertical support (20L) coupled to said inwardly-directed surface (i) within said distance from said respective right and left periphery.

Wolfrum discloses the panels (12) being arranged such that said left vertical support (20L) of one of said plurality of panels is secured with a respective of said right vertical support (20R) of an adjacent panel, (Figure 3A), (Column 4, Lines 18-25).

17. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfrum (US 6,205,720) in view of Barylski (US 4,214,412) and further in view of Stoecker (US 4,841,691). Wolfrum modified by Barylski discloses as discussed in claim 10; Wolfrum teaches a plurality of the panels wherein: the foundation (14) comprises a compressive-support material within a ground, said compressive-support material being concrete which is made of cement, (Figure 2), (Column 2, Lines 55-56).

Wolfrum discloses for each of the panels, each said lower-end ledge (1) comprises an aperture for accepting a fastener (60) permitting the securing of the panel to the foundation (14), (annotated Figure 2).

Wolfrum modified by Barylski does not disclose each said first section of said support framework being tubular in shape. However, Stoecker teaches a support framework being tubular in shape (Figures 1, 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the arts at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the support framework of Wolfrum and Barylski to have a tubular shape as taught by Stoecker in order to provide a stronger support structure.

Conclusion

18. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Armstrong (US 4,944,124) teaches a decorative panel for use as skirting on a mobile home. Klibofske (US 4,265,062) teaches a panel and a support framework made of expanded polystyrene. Johnson (US 6,572,238) teaches a panel having an ornamental façade including an illumination source. Ranney (US 4,631,647) teaches a panel having an incandescent illumination source.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adriana Figueroa whose telephone number is 571-272-8281. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on 571-272-6867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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